REMARKS

Rejection of Claims 29, 30, 49, 50 Under U.S.C. § 103(a) – Hollidge

The Patent Examiner rejected claims 29 and 49 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,028,272 to Hollidge ("Hollidge") under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Patent Office argues that Hollidge discloses a thin client, but does not explicitly disclose a web browser. The Patent Office then takes Official Notices that web browsers and markup languages are old and well known.

The Applicant disagrees that Hollidge discloses a "thin client." As further supplemental information, according to the Telecom Glossary 2K, a "thin client" is as indicated below. A copy of this definition is provided as Exhibit 1 to this Office Action response.

> A server- centric computing model in which the application software, data, and CPU resides on a network server rather than on the client computer (s). *Note 1:* This computing philosophy allows administrators to purchase one relatively powerful and expensive server and be confident that any external terminal, regardless of its power or sophistication, can run applications on the server. Most "shopping" Web pages, for example, are thin-client applications (*i.e.*, the client needs nothing more than a browser and a connection to the network to be able to search the "shopping" page and to order products). . . .

Further, as stated in present application, at page 6, lines 16-29:

> each fueling position 14 acts as a thin client capable of interacting with a network of servers. The controller 32 and associated user interfaces are preferably designed to minimize the hardware commitment necessary at each dispenser, while having sufficient capability to establish interactivity with the user and provide fuel dispenser control. Most computer intensive functions are provided as services from the various local and remote servers 18, 26. Merchandising and business rule interpretation are handled in the systems nomenclature as services.

Although certain functions and services may be run at the dispenser, most functions dealing with customer transactions, information dissemination and advertising or merchandising are preferably performed as services performed remotely and accessed by a client (fueling position). The browser software for each client has the ability to request services either locally or remotely, via the Internet or similar network. Certain services may be automatically requested by the browser at each client, while others await responses by a customer.

Hollidge does not teach or suggest a "thin client" architecture. The user interface, called the "display means" or video element (107 in Figure 1) in Hollidge is driven by the CPU (103). The CPU 103 is located in each fuel dispenser and is also interconnected to various other components in the fuel dispenser (See col. 1, ll. 43-56). The CPU (103) and/or video element are not connected to a server as they would be if a "thin client," because the CPU (103) is not connected to a network to communicate with a separate server for content to be displayed as is the case in the present invention as claimed. For example, in claim 29 of the present invention, the claim requires that the step of displaying information to a customer at the graphical user interface in response to receipt of a markup language from a server spaced apart from the fuel dispenser, by delivery over a network." (emphasis added).

Hollidge is more akin to a "fat client" according to the definition of a "fat client" which according to the Telecom Glossary 2K is "a client -centric computing model where software must be installed on each client in a network. This often requires that each client computer be upgraded to the same level." This definition is included in Exhibit 2 to this response and is shown below. The CPU (103) in Hollidge is a client computing model where the software that is run to service the components connected to the CPU (103) in Figure 1 is installed on the CPU (103) and not retrieved over a network from a server. (See col. 24, l. 50 - col. 25, l. 27).

Therefore, since Hollidge does not teach or suggest the "thin client" architecture like that claimed in the present invention, the present rejection cannot stand. Further, the Official Notice taken regarding web browsers being old and known still must be coupled with a proper reasoning

of a motivation to be combined to one of ordinary skill in the art to be properly used in this rejection as well.

Rejection of Claims 31-35, 51-55 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) – Hollidge & Craig

The Patent Examiner rejected claims 31-33 and 51-53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollidge in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,134,716 to Craig ("Craig").

As stated above, Hollidge and Craig do not teach or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. MPEP § 2143.03. The rejected claims are dependent on independent claism 29 and 49 which include a "thin client" architecture for the interactive display in the fuel dispenser not taught or suggested by Hollidge. Theredfore, it is not necessary for Applicant to address the merits of the additional limitations in claims 31-33 and 51-53 with respect to Hollidge or Craig to overcome this rejection, but Applicant reserves the right to do so in the future if needed

Respectfully submitted,

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Exhibit 1

thin client (computing)

thin client (computing): A server-centric computing model in which the application software, data, and CPU power resides on a network server rather than on the client computer (s). *Note 1:* This computing philosophy allows administrators to purchase one relatively powerful and expensive server and be confident that any external terminal, regardless of its power or sophistication, can run applications on the server. Most "shopping" Web pages, for example, are thin-client applications (*i.e.*, the client needs nothing more than a browser and a connection to the network to be able to search the "shopping" page and to order products). Local area networks can use thin-client modeling to install only one copy of necessary programs onto the main server for many clients on the network to use. *Note 2:* Server software is required to interface clients with the software on the server. *Synonyms* **Internet appliance (computing), Internet box (computing), network computer.**

This HTML version of Telecom Glossary 2K was last generated on Wed May 8 15:36:48 MDT 2002. References can be found in the Foreword.

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Exhibit 2

fat client

fat client: A client-centric computing model where software must be installed on each client in a network. This often requires that each client computer be upgraded to the same level.

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